

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: PEOPLES NATURAL GAS COMPANY, DIVISION OF UTILICORP UNITED INC.	DOCKET NO. TF-00-253
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ORDER DOCKETING PROPOSED TARIFF FOR FURTHER REVIEW

(Issued November 3, 2000)

On October 5, 2000, Peoples Natural Gas Company, Division of UtiliCorp United Inc. (Peoples), filed a proposed tariff with the Utilities Board (Board) designed to replace the current Firm Transportation Rate Schedule and Interruptible Rate Schedule with Large Volume Joint and Small Volume Joint Transportation Rate Schedules. Peoples states that the proposed tariff allows joint transportation service, whereby a customer would be able to select firm service, interruptible service, or a combination of firm and interruptible services. In addition, Peoples is proposing to reduce to a nominal amount the charge for returning from transportation service to system supply, as well as a new aggregation service. The tariff also reformats the balancing and scheduling charges section of Peoples' tariffs. The proposed tariff has been identified as Docket No. TF-00-253.

On October 23, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed an objection to the proposed tariff. Consumer Advocate states that it had resolved most of the questions it had with Peoples prior to the filing of the objection, but that it still had some unresolved issues. Consumer

Advocate raises questions with regard to the nominal charge for transportation customers returning to system supply, to the small and large volume monthly customer charge, and to the removal of the word "reasonably" from Fourth Revised Sheet Nos. 60b and 61b, paragraph 3.B. Consumer Advocate recommends a revision to Fourth Revised Sheet No. 60c, paragraph E, revise the definition of customer to include a competitive natural gas provider, and a clarification of the intent of eliminating sheet no. 60a, paragraph C.

The Board finds that the proposed tariff should be docketed for further review. The changes proposed by Peoples are fairly extensive and Consumer Advocate's objection raises questions concerning some of the proposed provisions. The Board will not establish a procedural schedule at this time, since with further review the issues may be resolved without the necessity of a formal proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The proposed tariff filed by Peoples Natural Gas Company, Division of UtiliCorp United Inc., on October 5, 2000, is docketed for further review.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 3rd day of November, 2000.